

Serial No.

REMARKS

Applicants have submitted herewith a Continuation-In-Part of Application Serial No. 09/499,121, filed February 7, 2000, and respectfully request that the accompanying Preliminary Amendment be entered. Claims 15-17 have been canceled, without prejudice. As such, Claims 1-14 and 18-28 remain in the case.

The Examiner is invited to telephone the Applicants' counsel at the number provided below in order to resolve any outstanding issues concerning the present application.

Respectfully submitted,



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February 5, 2002